WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1. A composition comprising sunscreening-effective concentrations of avobenzone, zinc oxide and phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid.
- 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent.
- 3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 0.5 to about 4 weight percent.
- 4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent.
- 5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of zinc oxide is about 1 to about 25 weight percent.
- 6. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of zinc oxide is about 5 to about 15 weight percent.
- 7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of zinc oxide is about 6 to about 25 weight percent.
 - 8. The composition of claim 1, which is in the form of an emulsion.
- 9. The composition of claim 1, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 6 to about 25 weight percent.
- 10. A sunscreen composition comprising avobenzone, zinc oxide and sufficient phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid to stabilize the avobenzone against photodegradation.

- 11. The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 0.5 to about 4 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 1 to about 25 weight percent.
- 12. The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 5 to about 15 weight percent.
- 13. The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 to about 3 weight percent and the concentration of zinc oxide is about 6 to about 25 weight percent.
- 14. A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 1.
- 15. A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 10.
- 16. A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 13.